

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2690

To authorize the placement in Arlington National Cemetery of an American Braille tactile flag in Arlington National Cemetery honoring blind members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and other Americans.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 4, 2008

Mr. BROWNBACK introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To authorize the placement in Arlington National Cemetery of an American Braille tactile flag in Arlington National Cemetery honoring blind members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and other Americans.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “American Braille Flag
5 Memorial Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) There are more than 175,000 blind vet-
2 erans.

3 (2) The Department of Defense estimates that
4 16 percent of the members of the Armed Forces who
5 have been injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom and
6 Operation Enduring Freedom have severe vision loss
7 as a result of their injuries.

8 (3) The American Braille tactile flag was cre-
9 ated by the Kansas Braille Transcription Institute
10 in Wichita, Kansas, to allow blind Americans and
11 blind veterans to experience the American flag.

12 (4) Arlington National Cemetery, visited by ap-
13 proximately 4,000,000 people annually, is a na-
14 tional place of remembrance and honor for the Na-
15 tion's veterans.

16 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF PLACEMENT OF AN AMERICAN**
17 **BRAILLE TACTILE FLAG IN ARLINGTON NA-**
18 **TIONAL CEMETERY HONORING BLIND MEM-**
19 **BERS OF THE ARMED FORCES, VETERANS,**
20 **AND OTHER AMERICANS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Army is au-
22 thorized to place in Arlington National Cemetery an
23 American Braille tactile flag in Arlington National Ceme-
24 tery honoring blind members of the Armed Forces, vet-
25 erans, and other Americans.

1 (b) APPROVAL OF DESIGN AND SITE.—The Secretary
2 of the Army shall have exclusive authority to approve an
3 appropriate design and site within Arlington National
4 Cemetery for the memorial authorized under subsection
5 (a).

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